

# RAISE

AWARENESS • EDUCATION • FUNDS • SURVIVORS

FALL • 2017

## FROM AN EXPERT

### HPV Vaccination Linked to Decreased Oral HPV Infections

ORAL HPV INFECTIONS WERE  
**88%** LOWER  
AMONG YOUNG ADULTS  
WHO RECEIVED AT LEAST  
ONE HPV VACCINE DOSE

Source: Gillison ML, et al. 2017 ASCO Annual Meeting, Abstract #6003  
[cancer.gov](http://cancer.gov)

New study results suggest that vaccination against the human papillomavirus (HPV) may sharply reduce oral HPV infections that are a major risk factor for oropharyngeal cancer, a type of **head and neck cancer**.

The study of more than 2,600 young adults in the United States found that the prevalence of oral infection with four HPV types, including two high-risk, or cancer-causing, types, was 88% lower in those who reported receiving at least one dose of an HPV vaccine than in those who said they were not vaccinated.

About 70% of oropharyngeal cancers are caused by high-risk HPV infection, and the incidence of HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancer has been increasing in the United States in recent decades. In the United States, more than half of oropharyngeal cancers are linked to a single high-risk HPV type, HPV 16, which is one of the types covered by Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved **HPV vaccines**.

“In an unvaccinated population, we would estimate that about a million young adults would have an oral HPV infection by one of these vaccine HPV types. If they had all been vaccinated, we could have prevented almost 900,000 of those infections,” said senior study author Maura Gillison, M.D., Ph.D., of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Dr. Gillison presented the **new findings** **Exit Disclaimer** at a May 17 press briefing ahead of the 2017 annual American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) meeting.

#### A Rapidly Rising Cancer

Oropharyngeal cancer “is the fastest-rising cancer among young white men in the United States,” said Dr. Gillison, who was at Ohio State University when she conducted the study.

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Notes from TCC Founder and Cancer survivor, Diane Crawford

## FOCUSED

How can anyone be focused this time of year? It's time for family and holiday celebrations, but it's also time for Raise A Racket (RAR)! We are going to make more noise than ever in 2018 with our expanded tennis clinics and our new party venue, Villa Milano.

We need you to *raise your voice* and ask everyone you know to support our mission by being part of TCC and RAR. January is Cervical Health Awareness month and we have many ways for you to get involved. Be sure to check out **Things to Plan on** and **What's Happening With TCC** so you can be in the loop!

The Crawford Crew has moved! We have been headquartered in our home since 2009, however, because of our growth over the past year, we have officially moved to an office in Westerville. Our doors are always open, so feel free to stop in!

It's been a privilege to provide you with information you can use and share this year. Thank you for making TCC your “go to” resource for all things related to increasing cervical cancer awareness.

From all of us here at TCC, we wish you a healthy and happy holiday season! Until next time, Be Aware and Share!



Be sure to connect with us so you don't miss out!



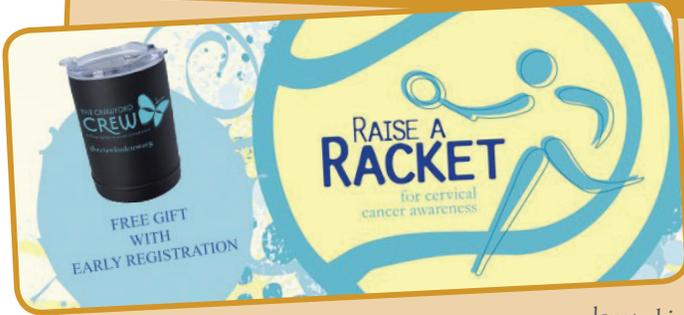
SUBSCRIBE!

THE CRAWFORD  
CREW

Pulling together to prevent cervical cancer



## THINGS TO PLAN ON



- **REGISTER NOW** for the 6th Annual **Raise A Racket** on **January 20, 2018**. Make sure to register at <http://thecrawfordcrew.org/event/raise-a-racket/> before December 15th to get our Early Bird Gift!
- **3rd Annual Holiday Decor Raffle:** This festive event will run through December 5th. Last year we raffled off a gorgeous sleigh filled with a tree, adorable bears, reindeer and more. The display is again being sponsored by Andy's Frame Setting. Purchase your tickets at Andy's Frame Setting, located in the North Gate/Kroger Plaza. Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10. Join us for

wine, cheese and the announcement of our winner December 5 from 6:00-8:00 pm.

- **Paint the 'Ville Teal:** Check out **What's Happening** for all the details of this exciting new awareness initiative we are launching this January.

## TCC SPOTLIGHT ALISON BUIRLEY CANCER SURVIVOR, RAR VOLUNTEER, DONOR



Alison Buirley, Volunteer

### *How and when did you become involved with The Crawford Crew?*

I was diagnosed with Cervical Cancer in 2015. Shortly after, I contacted Diane as she was referred to me by a couple of mutual acquaintances. I knew immediately after meeting Diane that I wanted to help spread awareness about Cervical Cancer and wanted to get involved with The Crawford Crew

Foundation, whether was by volunteering or by donating.

### *Tell us about what you specifically do to support TCC and or RAR efforts?*

I own and design clothing for a children's clothing brand, Be Girl Clothing. I donate a portion of all sales to The Crawford Crew and periodically post Cervical Cancer facts on my social media outlets. My target customer is mothers of little girls ranging from infant to tween ages. It is important that these mothers are educated on Cervical Cancer, the risks and how to prevent it. With the HPV vaccination now available, there is no reason that a young girl should ever get infected with HPV and be at a high risk for cervical cancer. It is my desire that through awareness they realize the importance in protecting our young girls and ourselves by regular Pap checkups. I also am involved with the Raise A Racket fundraising event by donating a couple items to the Silent Auction. Starting last year,

I also volunteered at the event and helped with the auction setup and check-out. It is my hope that my personal and business partnership with The Crawford Crew continues to grow for years to come.

### *How is TCC and RAR different than other volunteer or charitable organizations?*

The Crawford Crew stands out because of the founder in my opinion. Not only is Diane a Cervical Cancer survivor but she is one of the most genuine, selfless and upbeat people I've ever met. Just being in her presence makes people want to help out in some way because they want to support Diane, her mission and her foundation. Also, Cervical Cancer is a cancer that does not receive a lot of media buzz. Some survivors shy away from talking about their cancer in fear of shame. The truth is, anybody can get HPV or Cervical Cancer. It does not discriminate by age or even lifestyle. I think it's honorable that Diane stepped up and let her voice be heard. It is refreshing to see so many people standing together at RAR and talking about everything TEAL, it gives me chills every year.

### *How can someone help support TCC and/or RAR?*

There are many opportunities to support TCC from donating to simply following their Facebook and Instagram pages and sharing with your friends. Attending or volunteering at RAR is a great way to get involved, and might I add a fun night for all. Even if you cannot attend, a donated item for the Silent Auction is always appreciated!



# WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH TCC

## Paint the 'Ville Teal is Coming, January 2018

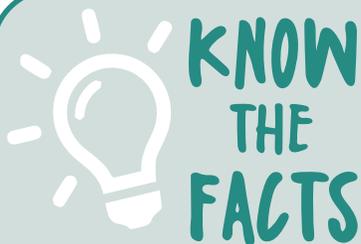
The Crawford Crew is excited to announce a new awareness and outreach initiative we have planned for Westerville (the 'Ville). We are honored to have the support of The City of Westerville for our January 2018 "Paint the 'Ville Teal" program, in conjunction with National Cervical Cancer Awareness month.

Here is what we have planned thus far:

- The City of Westerville is graciously allowing TCC to hang our Cervical Cancer Awareness banner across State Street in Uptown Westerville the week of January 7th!
- Our volunteers and supporters will "Paint the 'Ville Teal" by tying teal ribbons on light poles and trees lining State Street the first week of January 2018. The ribbons will remain up through January.
- Otterbein University will also be "Painted Teal" during the month of January to extend our message across the campus and to the student body.
- While we are hanging ribbons, we will also drop off educational materials to local stores.

- We are in touch with local media to let them know about our plans and ask them to help share our mission with the community.
- TCC will share our message on our social media channels and we encourage the City of Westerville and our other supporters to do so as well. We invite you to share our posts with your social media connections as well.
- In addition to our long-standing force of volunteers, TCC will be engaging our Junior Board members and work with Otterbein University Health & Sport Sciences Department for our ribbon and message canvassing.
- We are speaking with businesses, civic organizations, the schools and local government to ask for their help to expand our reach and share our mission with as many people as possible.

This is a new for initiative for TCC and we welcome any ideas, resources or connections you, our valued supporters, have to offer. We intend to to make a BIG teal splash across the 'Ville and educate our fellow citizens about Cervical Cancer. If you have questions or suggestions, or wish to help in any way please, contact Diane Crawford at [di@thecrawfordcrew.org](mailto:di@thecrawfordcrew.org).



**Do you know how to detect Cervical Cancer early? Here are the American Cancer Society guidelines:**

- Cervical cancer testing should start at age 21. **Under 21 should not be tested.**
- **Women between the ages of 21 and 29** should have a Pap test done every 3 years. HPV testing should not be used unless it's needed after an abnormal Pap result.
- **Women between the ages of 30 and 65** should have a Pap test plus an HPV test (called "co-testing") every 5 years. This is the preferred approach, but it's OK to have a Pap test alone every 3 years.
- **Women over age 65** who have had regular cervical cancer testing in the past 10 years with normal results should not be tested for cervical cancer. Once testing is stopped, it should not be started again. Women with a history of a serious cervical pre-cancer should continue to be tested for at least 20 years after that diagnosis, even if testing goes past age 65.
- **A woman who has had her uterus and cervix removed (a total hysterectomy)** for reasons not related to cervical cancer and who has no history of cervical cancer or serious pre-cancer should not be tested.
- **All women who have been vaccinated against HPV** should still follow the screening recommendations for their age groups.

Some women – because of their health history (HIV infection, organ transplant, DES exposure, etc.) – may need a different screening schedule for cervical cancer. Talk to a health care provider about your history.

*Reference: cancer.org*

## RAISE YOUR VOICE

Donate and make a difference where you feel most passionate!

OUTREACH/EDUCATION

RESEARCH



SUBSCRIBE!



## FROM AN EXPERT *continued from page 1*

“The HPV types that cause oropharyngeal cancers are primarily transmitted through sexual contact,” explained lead study author Anil Chaturvedi, Ph.D., of NCI’s **Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics**. The increased incidence of oropharyngeal cancers in white men has been linked to changes in sexual behaviors from the 1950s through the 1970s, he said.

Clinical trials have shown that FDA-approved HPV vaccines can prevent anogenital HPV infections and precancerous lesions that lead to HPV-associated cancers, including cervical and anal cancer.

From 2006 through 2014, most HPV-vaccinated individuals in the United States received **Gardasil®**, an HPV vaccine that protects against infection with HPV types 6, 11, 16, and 18. In January 2015, FDA approved an updated HPV vaccine, Gardasil 9®, that protects against five additional HPV types.

### Looking for a Link

To investigate the relationship between HPV vaccination and oral HPV infection, the researchers analyzed data for 2,627 young adults who participated in **NHANES**, a national survey that assesses the health of a representative slice of the US population.

Drs. Gillison, Chaturvedi, and their colleagues restricted their analysis to NHANES data from 2011 to 2014, focusing on 18- to 33-year-old men and women.

In the United States, routine vaccination against HPV, which causes nearly all cervical cancers, has been recommended since mid-2006 for 11- to 12-year-old girls and for females up to age 26 who have not previously been vaccinated. HPV vaccination has been recommended for males ages 9–26 since 2009.

The researchers analyzed mouth rinse samples from all study participants for the presence of 37 HPV types, including types 6, 11, 16, and 18, which are covered by Gardasil, Dr. Gillison said.

The prevalence of oral infections with these four HPV types was 1.61% in unvaccinated young adults versus 0.11% in vaccinated

young adults – an 88% reduction in HPV prevalence with vaccination. Among men, the prevalence of oral infection with the four HPV types was 2.1% in unvaccinated individuals and 0.0% in vaccinated individuals.

Vaccination rates were low overall, with only 29.2% of women and 6.9% of men in the study population reporting having received at least one dose of an HPV vaccine before age 26.

### Prevention Potential

Although the self-reported vaccination rates in this study were low, Dr. Gillison said, “there is considerable optimism because more recent data indicate that [roughly] 60% of girls and 50% of boys under age 18 have received more than one HPV vaccine dose.”

“HPV vaccines are already strongly recommended for cancer prevention,” Dr. Gillison continued. “Parents who choose to have their children vaccinated against HPV should realize that the vaccine may provide additional benefits, such as preventing oral HPV infections linked to oral cancers.”

However, she and Dr. Chaturvedi noted, only a randomized clinical trial that follows people over time could definitively show a cause and effect relationship between HPV vaccination and a lasting reduction of high-risk oral HPV infections, which experts agree is a more meaningful indicator of vaccine effectiveness.

In July 2013, NCI researchers and their collaborators reported findings from the NCI-sponsored HPV Vaccine Trial in Costa Rica that suggested that HPV vaccination can reduce oral HPV infections in women.

“Our study builds on those results by showing a reduction in oral HPV prevalence in vaccinated men, the group that bears the greatest burden of HPV-associated oropharynx cancers,” Dr. Chaturvedi said.

*This article was published in June 2017, by National Cancer Institute Staff; <https://www.cancer.gov/news-events/cancer-currents-blog/2017/hpv-vaccine-oral-infection>.*



**OUR GOAL IS TO RAISE MONEY AND POUR IT INTO, EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR CERVICAL CANCER, AND OTHER GYNECOLOGICAL CANCERS.**

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